Samuel J. Kaufman Va. State Bar No.: 48442 15521 Midlothian Turnpike Suite 300 Midlothian, VA 23113 (804) 594-1911

Email Address: skaufman@owenowens.com -Counsel for Foundation Capital Resources, Inc.-

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA Newport News Division

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In re:))
RIVER OF LIFE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, INC.) Chapter 11) Case No. 11-51943-SCS
Debtor.))
FOUNDATION CAPITAL RESOURCES, INC.,	.)
Movant,	
v.	
RIVER OF LIFE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, INC.,	

Respondent.

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM THE AUTOMATIC STAY

Foundation Capital Resources, Inc., a creditor in this case, has filed papers with the Court to obtain relief from the automatic stay of the Bankruptcy Code with regard to certain properties more particularly described in those papers which are attached.

YOUR RIGHTS MAY BE AFFECTED. You should read these papers carefully and discuss them with your attorney, if you have one in this bankruptcy case. (If you do not have an attorney, you may wish to consult one).

If you do not wish the Court to grant this creditor the relief sought in the motion, or if you want the court to consider your views on the motion, then on or before fourteen (14) days from the date of service of this Notice, you or your attorney must:

1. File with the Court, at the address show below, a written response pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rules 4001(a)-1(c) and 9103-1(H). If you mail your

response to the Court for filing, you must mail it early enough so the Court will receive it on or before the date stated above.

William C. Redden Clerk of the Court United States Bankruptcy Court 600 Granby Street, Room 400 Norfolk, VA 23510

2. You must also mail a copy to:

Samuel J. Kaufman Owen & Owens PLC 15521 Midlothian Turnpike, Suite 300 Midlothian, VA 23113

3. Attend the preliminary hearing to be scheduled regarding the Motion for Relief from Automatic Stay. You will receive from the Court separate notice setting forth the date, time, and location of the preliminary hearing.

If no timely response has been filed opposing the relief requested, the Court may grant the relief requested in the Motion for Relief from Automatic Stay.

If you or your attorney do not take these steps, the Court may decide that you do not oppose the relief sought in the Motion for Relief from Automatic Stay and may enter an Order granting that relief.

Date: October 11, 2013 **FOUNDATION CAPITAL RESOURCES, INC.**

By: /s/ Samuel J. Kaufman_____

Samuel J. Kaufman Va. State Bar No.: 48442 15521 Midlothian Turnpike Suite 300

Midlothian, VA 23113 (804) 594-1911

Email: skaufman@owenowens.com

-Counsel for Foundation Capital

Resources. Inc.-

Samuel J. Kaufman Va. State Bar No.: 48442 15521 Midlothian Turnpike Suite 300 Midlothian, VA 23113 (804) 594-1911 Email Address: skaufman@owenowens.com

-Counsel for Foundation Capital Resources, Inc.-

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA Newport News Division

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In re:)
RIVER OF LIFE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, INC.) Chapter 11) Case No. 11-51943-SCS
Debtor.)
FOUNDATION CAPITAL RESOURCES, INC.,	_)
Movant,	
v.	
RIVER OF LIFE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, INC.,	

Respondent.

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY

Comes Now Foundation Capital Resources, Inc. ("FCR") by counsel, and moves this Court for relief from the automatic stay provisions of 11 U.S.C. § 362 on grounds as more fully set forth below:

I. Jurisdiction

1. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334.

2. This application for relief form the automatic stay provisions of 11 U.S.C. § 362 is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)G).

II. Factual and Procedural Background

- 3. On November 1, 2012 ("Petition Date"), the debtor, River of Life Christian Church, Inc. (the "Church" or "Debtor"), filed a Chapter 11 Petition in Bankruptcy with this Court.
- 4. FCR is the beneficiary under that Certain Deed of Trust, Assignment of Leases and Rents, and Security Agreement dated March 30, 2006 from River of Life Christian Church, Inc. to Thomas A. Burcher, Trustee, for the benefit of FCR securing payment by way of a lien upon, on certain parcels of real property as more particularly described below in the original principal amount of Two Million Seven Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$2,700,000,00), said document being recorded, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of York County, Virginia, on March 31, 2006 as Instrument No. 060007291 and in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit court for the City of Hampton, Virginia, on March 31, 2006 as Instrument No. 060008240, as well as in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the Coty of Newport News (a copy of the "Deed of Trust" attached hereto as Exhibit A).
- 5. As of the Petition Date, the following real property owned by the Debtor and located in York County, Virginia, and the City of Hampton, Virginia was encumbered by the Deed of Trust:
- a. <u>The "York County Property"</u>: Certain real property identified as <u>115</u>

 <u>Runey Way, Yorktown, Virginia 23693, located in York County, Virginia, GPIN No.</u>

 <u>S03a-2099-2875</u>, and more particularly described as:

All that certain lot, piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the County of York, Virginia, known and designated as Lot Numbered TWENTY THREE (23), as shown on that certain plat entitled, "PLAT OF SUBDIVISION THE VILLAGES OF KILN CREEK, OAKWOOD, SINGLE FAMILY AREA 10, COUNTY OF YORK, VIRGINIA", dated January 31, 1993, made by Sledd, Runey & Associates, P.C., and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County of York, Virginia, in Plat Book 12, pages 83 through 85, to which reference is here made.

Together with all and singular, the buildings and improvements thereon, rights and privileges, hereditaments and tenements thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining, and any easements or rights of way for the use thereof.

and

b. <u>The "Hampton Property"</u>: Certain real property identified as <u>667</u> and <u>629 Hannah Street</u>, <u>Hampton</u>, <u>Virginia 23661</u>, <u>located in the City of Hampton</u>, <u>Virginia, GPIN Nos. 1002532</u>, <u>1002533</u>, <u>1002534</u>, <u>1002542</u>, <u>1002543</u>, <u>1002544</u>, <u>1002545</u>, <u>1002546</u>, <u>1002547</u>, <u>1002683 1002708</u>, and <u>1002709</u>, and more particularly

described as: [description on next page]

Parcel 1:

All those certain lots, piece or parcels of land, situate, lying and being in the City of Hampton, Virginia, known and designated as Lots NINE (9), TEN (10), ELEVEN (11), TWELVE (12), THIRTEEN (13), FOURTEEN (14), FIFTEEN (15), and SIXTEEN (16), in Block 11, as shown on a certain map or plat entitled, 'A PLAT OF GAINESVILLE", THE PROPERTY OF MRS. C.M. BICKFORD, made by E. A. Semple, C.E., dated August 8, 1895, a copy of which said plat was recorded August 9, 1895, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the City of Hampton, Virginia, in Deed Book 26, page 112, to which reference is here made.

Parcel 2:

All those certain lots, pieces or parcels of land, situate, lying and being in the City of Hampton, Virginia, known and designated as Lots FOUR (4), FIVE (5), SIX (6), SEVEN (7) and EIGHT (8), in Block 10, as shown on a certain map or plat entitled, 'A PLAT OF "GAINESVILLE", THE PROPERTY OF MRS. C.M. BICKFORD,' made by E. A. Semple, C.E., dated August 8, 1895, a copy of which said plat was recorded August 9, 1895 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the City of Hampton, Virginia in Deed Book 26, page 112, to which reference is here made.

Parcel 3:

All that certain lot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the City of Hampton, Virginia, known and designated as Lot ONE (1) in Block 10, as shown on a certain map or plat entitled, "MAP OF THE LAND OF THE HAMPTON ROADS INVESTMENT COMPANY," a copy of which is recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the City of Hampton, Virginia, in Deed Book 37, at pages 26-29.

Parcel 4:

All those certain lots, pieces or parcels of land, situate, lying and being in the City of Hampton, Virginia, known and designated as Lots FORTY ONE (41), FORTY-TWO (42), and FORTY-THREE (43), in Block 10, a shown on a certain map or plat entitled, "MAP OF THE LAND OF THE HAMPTON ROADS INVESTMENT COMPANY," a copy of which is recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the City of Hampton, Virginia in Deed Book 37, at pages 26-29.

- 6. The Church was first organized in 1900 as First Baptist Church Riverview. In October 2002, the Church changed its name to River of Life Christian Church. River of Life Christian Church, Inc. was formally incorporated with the Virginia State Corporation Commission on October 14, 2005.
- 7. In conjunction with its loan from FCR in 2006, it was the intent of River of Life Christian Church (an unincorporated entity), by and through its trustees, to transfer the York County Property and the Hampton Property (collectively, the "Properties") to River of Life Christian Church, Inc., its successor church entity.

- 8. The York County Property was transferred to Debtor by way of that certain Deed from Edward P. Henderson and James D. McCall, Successor Trustees of Riverview Baptist Church, to River of Life Christian Church, Inc. dated March 24, 2006, and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of York County, Virginia on March 31, 2006 as Instrument No. 060007290 (a copy of the "2006 York County Deed" attached hereto as **Exhibit B**).
- 9. The Hampton Property was transferred to Debtor by way of that certain Deed from Edward P. Henderson and James D. McCall, Successor Trustees of Riverview Baptist Church, to River of Life Christian Church, Inc. dated March 24, 2006, and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of York County, Virginia on March 31, 2006 as Instrument No. 060008239 (a copy of the "2006 Hampton Deed" attached hereto as **Exhibit C**).
- 10. Despite the intentions of the parties otherwise, the trustees identified in the 2006 Deed and certain trustees in the deeds preceding the 2006 York County Deed and the 2006 Hampton Deed, were not properly appointed by the appropriate state courts pursuant to Virginia Code § 57-8.
- 11. Accordingly, FCR seeks relief from the automatic stay of 11 U.S.C. § 362 to file state court actions in York County and the City of Hampton solely to request the state courts confirm and appoint trustees in favor of the predecessor unincorporated church entities pursuant to Virginia Code § 57-8.
- 12. The proposed Complaint (without exhibits) to be filed in the York County Circuit Court setting forth in detail the facts pertaining to the 2006 York County Deed is attached hereto as **Exhibit D**.

- 13. The proposed Complaint (without exhibits) to be filed in the City of Hampton Circuit Court setting forth in detail the facts pertaining to the 2006 Hampton Deed is attached hereto as **Exhibit E**.
 - 14. Only the state courts has jurisdiction to appoint the necessary trustees.
- 15. It is anticipated that issues pertaining to the extent and priority of FCR's lien on the Properties will be resolved amicably through a Chapter 11 plan. In the alternative, it is anticipated that should FCR and ROL not resolve issues relating to the extent and priority of the FCR lien on the Properties through a Chapter 11 plan, FCR will file an adversary proceeding in the bankruptcy court to establish the extent and priority of its liens under the Deed of Trust. Accordingly, FCR does not now request such relief but specifically reserves the right to request such relief by subsequent proceedings in this Court or in the appropriate state court should the automatic stay not prevent such an action.

III. Legal Analysis

- 16. Since the United States Bankruptcy Code does not explicitly define what constitutes "cause" for relief from stay under 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(1), the courts must determine when such discretionary relief is appropriate on a case-by-case basis. *Robbins v. Robbins* (*In re Robbins*), 964 F.2d 342, 345 (4th Cir. 1992).
- 17. A determination of "cause" for relief from stay under 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(1) requires the courts to "balance potential prejudice to the bankruptcy debtor's estate against the hardships that will be incurred by the person seeking relief from the automatic stay if relief is denied." *Id*.

- 18. Here, all parties to this proceeding, including Debtor, FCR, as well as the other creditors should be desirous of court orders quieting title in favor of Debtor and confirming Debtor's title ownership to the York County Property and the Hampton Property.
- 19. It is necessary for the actions set forth in the attached **Exhibits D and E** to be prosecuted in the appropriate state courts because Virginia Code § 57-8 dictates that the appointment of trustees for an unincorporated church association must be done by the Circuit Court sitting in the jurisdiction where the property is located.
- 20. Accordingly, relief from the automatic stay is necessary to allow FCR to bring the state court actions to have the appropriate trustees appointed and to quiet title.
- 21. The state court actions do not seek adjudication of any issues regarding FCR's liens on the subject properties.
- 22. It is anticipated that FCR will bring an adversary proceeding requesting this Court to ascertain the extent and priority of FCR's liens as the subject properties if the parties are unable to otherwise resolve any issues pertaining to said liens following adjudication of the matters set forth in **Exhibits D and E**.
- 23. The Debtor does not object to the relief sought herein and it is expected that the Debtor will subsequently endorse consent orders with respect to the state court matters.

WHEREFORE, FCR requests the entry of an order granting FCR relief from the automatic stay provisions of 11 U.S.C. § 362, thus allowing FCR to file the Complaints attached hereto in **Exhibits D and E**, or Complaints substantially similar thereto, to seek orders from the Circuit Court for the City of Hampton, Virginia and the Circuit Court of

the County of York, Virginia appointing trustees in favor of the predecessor church entities to Debtor, and that this Court grant such other and further relief as it deems necessary and proper. In addition, FCR requests that this Court waive the stay of order referenced in Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3).

Respectfully Submitted,

FOUNDATION CAPITAL RESOURCES, INC.

Dated: October 11, 2013

By__/s/ Samuel J. Kaufman_
Samuel J. Kaufman, as Counsel for Foundation
Capital Resources, Inc.

Samuel J. Kaufman Owen & Owens PLC Va. State Bar No.: 48442 15521 Midlothian Turnpike Suite 300 Midlothian, VA 23113 (804) 594-1911

Email Address: skaufman@owenowens.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT copies of the foregoing Motion, Notice, and Exhibits, have this <u>11th day of October</u>, <u>2013</u>, been sent electronically to all parties registered to receive notifications via the CM/ECF system; and/or mailed first class postage prepaid on the <u>15th day of October</u>, <u>2013</u> to all creditors and parties in interest on the mailing list below:

By__/s/ Samuel J. Kaufman_
Samuel J. Kaufman, as Counsel for Foundation
Capital Resources, Inc.
Owen & Owens PLC
Va. State Bar No.: 48442
15521 Midlothian Turnpike
Suite 300
Midlothian, VA 23113
(804) 594-1911
Email Address: skaufman@owenowens.com

Ann B. Brogan, Esquire Crowley, Liberatore, Ryan & Brogan P. C. Town Point Center, Suite 300 150 Boush Street Norfolk, VA 23510 -Counsel for River of Life Christian Church, Inc.-

Paul K. Campsen, Esquire Kaufman & Canoles, P.C. 150 W. Main Street, Suite 1900 P. O. Box 3037 Norfolk, VA 23510

Reginald Lee 115 Runey Way Yorktown, VA 23693 -Debtor Designee-

River of Life Christian Church, Inc. PO Box 14218 Newport News, VA 23608 -Debtor-

Judy A. Robbins Office of the U.S. Trustee, Region 4 -NN 200 Granby Street, Room 625 Norfolk, VA 23510

Brown Building Corporation

4857 Dolton Drive Virginia Beach, VA 23462-4408

City of Newport News

Office of the Treasurer P. O. Box 975 Newport News, VA 23607-0000

City of Newport News

Office of the City Attorney 2400 Washington Ave. Newport News, VA 23607

Comfort Technology

2810 Build America Drive Hampton, VA 23666

David W. Lanetti, Esq.

Vandeventer Black, LLP 101 W. Main Street 500 World Trade Center Norfolk, VA 23510-0000

Dominion Virginia Power

PO Box 26453 Richmond, VA 23290-0001

Edward Henderson

9 Balmoral Drive Hampton, VA 23669

Harvey Lindsay Commercial

Real Estate, Agent 999 Waterside Drive, Ste 1400 Norfolk, VA 23510

HSBC Business Solutions

P. O. Box 5259 Carol Stream, IL 60197-5239

IFC Credit Corporation

1310 Madrid Street Suite 103 Marshall, MN 56258-0000

Internal Revenue Service

PO Box 7346 Philadelphia, PA 19101-7346

Irving B. Goldstein

741 J. Clyde Morris Blvd. Suite A Newport News, VA 23601-0000

Jack's Carpet

11838 Canon Blvd, Ste 300 Newport News, VA 23606

Jack's of Virginia, Inc.

t/a Jacks Tile & Carpet Schempf & Ware, PLLC 4000 George Washington Memorial Hwy Yorktown, VA 23692

Michael B. Ware, Esq.

Jones, Blechman, Woltz & Kelly 4000 Geo. Washington Mem. Hwy. Yorktown, VA 23692

Pioneer Capital/IFC Credit Corp

1310 Madrid Street, Ste 103 Marshall, MN 56258

Structural Mechanical, Inc.

2500 Engagement Court #101 Virginia Beach, VA 23453-0000

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United Family Worship Center

c/o Lewis Stokes 667 Hannah Street Hampton, VA 23661

US Bancorp Equipment Finance, Inc.

1310 Madrid St. Marshall, MN 56258

Verizon

PO Box 660720 Dallas, TX 75266-0720

Virginia Natural Gas

PO Box 70840 Charlotte, NC 28272-0840

Virginia Natural Gas

PO Box 70840 Charlotte, NC 28272-0840

Xerox Corporation

Attn: Vanessa Adams 1301 Ridgeview Drive-450 Lewisville, TX 75057

Xerox Corporation

88188 Expedite Way Chicago, IL 60695-0000